From: Gabriel Mastico
To: Contact OGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50
Date: Thursday, June 16, 2022 9:08:05 PM

Dear sirs/mesdames:

I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should:
- remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional;
- replace the proposed recusal requirement with a broader 5-year recusal requirement that prevents donors of cash gifts from influencing decisions, policies, or regulations affecting them or the industries in which they have substantial interests;
- remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
- place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

While I have based my comments above on a template response, I want to assure you that I did read the proposed rule, and that my comments above reflect my genuinely held views.

As a public servant, I consider ethics in government to be solemn and sacrosanct business. This proposed rule comes nowhere close to the level of appropriate level of stringency, and I ask that you revise it accordingly.

Best regards.

Gabriel Mastico